

WE CLAIM:

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1. A facsimile system comprising:
a facsimile machine reading image data from an original;
5 a computer transmitting to and receiving from the facsimile machine data of addressee identification information indicative of at least a name of addressee and a facsimile number corresponding to the name of addressee;
computer-side storage means provided at a computer side for
10 storing the data of addressee identification information;
computer-side referring means provided at the computer side for referring to the data of addressee identification information stored in the computer-side storage means; and
instruction means provided in the facsimile machine so as
15 to be instructed at a facsimile machine side to refer via the computer-side referring means to the data of addressee identification information stored in the computer-side storage means.
- 20 525 2. A facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein the computer includes computer-side output means for outputting the data of addressee identification information stored in the computer-side storage means, and the facsimile machine includes facsimile-side input means provided so that the data of addressee
25 identification information output by the computer-side output means is received in the facsimile machine and facsimile-side storage means for storing the data of addressee identification information supplied to the facsimile-side input means.

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3. A facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein the facsimile machine includes facsimile-side registering means for registering the data of addressee identification information in the facsimile-side storage means and facsimile-side output means
5 for outputting the data of addressee identification information registered in the facsimile-side storage means by the facsimile-side registering means, the computer includes computer-side input means for receiving the data of addressee
10 identification information output from the facsimile-side storage means by the facsimile-side output means, and the computer-side storage means stores the data of addressee identification information received by the computer-side input means.

15 4. A computer system according to claim 2, wherein the facsimile machine includes facsimile-side registering means for registering the data of addressee identification information in the facsimile-side storage means and facsimile-side output means
20 for outputting the data of addressee identification information registered in the facsimile-side storage means by the facsimile-side registering means, the computer includes computer-side input means for receiving the data of addressee
25 identification information output from the facsimile-side storage means by the facsimile-side output means, and the computer-side storage means stores the data of addressee identification information received by the computer-side input means.

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5. A facsimile system according to claim 3, wherein:
the facsimile machine includes retrieval instructing means
for inputting information about the name of addressee contained
in the data of addressee identification information and
5 instructing to retrieve the data of addressee identification
information corresponding to the input information;

the computer-side referring means retrieves the data of
addressee identification information stored in the computer-
side storage means based on instruction delivered by the
10 retrieval instructing means, thereby extracting the
corresponding data of addressee identification information;

the computer-side output means outputs to the facsimile
machine results of extraction by the computer-side referring
means; and

15 the facsimile machine includes facsimile-side display means
for displaying the results of extraction output by the
computer-side output means to thereby be received by the
facsimile-side input means.

20 6. A facsimile system according to claim 4, wherein:

the facsimile machine includes retrieval instructing means
for inputting information about the name of addressee contained
in the data of addressee identification information and
instructing to retrieve the data of addressee identification
25 information corresponding to the input information;

the computer-side referring means retrieves the data of
addressee identification information stored in the computer-
side storage means based on instruction delivered by the

retrieval instructing means, thereby extracting the corresponding data of addressee identification information;

the computer-side output means outputs to the facsimile machine results of extraction by the computer-side referring
5 means; and

the facsimile machine includes facsimile-side display means for displaying the results of extraction output by the computer-side output means to thereby be received by the facsimile-side input means.

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SD 1 77. A facsimile system according to claim 5, wherein the computer includes computer-side display means for displaying results of extraction an amount of which is larger than one of the results of extraction displayed by the facsimile-side
15 display means.

8. A facsimile system according to claim 2, wherein the facsimile machine includes selecting means for selecting the data of addressee identification information stored in the
20 facsimile-side storage means and at least one of the data of addressee identification information stored in the computer-side storage means, said one of the data being the one referred to by the computer-side referring means, and transmission means for transmitting image data to an addressee indicated by the data
25 of addressee identification information selected by the selecting means either via a communication channel by way of an internet or via a public communication network not by way of the internet.

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9. A facsimile system according to claim 8, wherein each of the facsimile-side storage means and the computer-side storage means is capable of storing data of a mail address specifying an addressee of an electronic mail as the data of addressee identification information, and the transmission means transmits image data to an addressee specified by the mail address via the communication channel by way of the internet when the data of addressee identification information is the mail address.

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10. A facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein the facsimile machine is capable of executing facsimile transmission via an internet to an addressee, and the facsimile machine includes reading means for reading data of address information registered on the basis of an electronic mail application program which is already in operation and designating means for designating the data of address information read by the reading means as data of address information for the facsimile transmission via the internet.

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11. A facsimile system according to claim 10, wherein the facsimile machine includes address information storage means for storing the data of address information designated by the designating means as an addressee address for the facsimile transmission via the internet and address selecting means for selecting a desired address from the address information storage means.

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12. A facsimile system according to claim 10, wherein the electronic mail application program is in operation on the computer of the system or a computer other than the computer of the system.

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13. A facsimile system according to claim 11, wherein the electronic mail application program is in operation on the computer of the system or a computer other than the computer of the system.

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14. An internet facsimile machine comprising capable of executing facsimile transmission via an internet to an addressee, comprising:

reading means for reading data of address information registered on the basis of an electronic mail application program which is already in operation; and

designating means for designating the data of address information read by the reading means as data of address information for the facsimile transmission via the internet.

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15. An internet facsimile machine according to claim 14, further comprising address information storage means for storing the data of address information designated by the designating means as an addressee address for the facsimile transmission via the internet and address selecting means for selecting a desired address from the address information storage means.

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16. An internet facsimile machine according to claim 14,

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wherein the electronic mail application program is in operation on the computer of the system or a computer other than the computer of the system.

5 17. An internet facsimile machine according to claim 15, wherein the electronic mail application program is in operation on the computer of the system or a computer other than the computer of the system.

10 18. A facsimile system comprising:
a facsimile machine reading image data from an original;
a computer transmitting to and receiving from the facsimile machine data of addressee identification information indicative of at least a name of addressee and a facsimile number
15 corresponding to the name of addressee;
a computer-side storage circuit provided at a computer side for storing the data of addressee identification information;
a computer-side referring circuit provided at the computer side for referring to the data of addressee identification
20 information stored in the computer-side storage circuit; and
an instruction circuit provided in the facsimile machine so as to be instructed at a facsimile machine side to refer via the computer-side referring circuit to the data of addressee identification information stored in the computer-side storage
25 circuit.

sub B2 > 19. An internet facsimile machine capable of executing facsimile transmission via an internet to an addressee,

comprising:

a reading circuit for reading data of address information registered on the basis of an electronic mail application program which is already in operation; and

- 5 a designating circuit for designating the data of address information read by the reading circuit as data of address information for the facsimile transmission via the internet.

20. A recording medium for recording a program for operating a facsimile machine, the program realizing the functions of:

reading means for reading data of address information registered on the basis of an electronic mail application program which is already in operation; and

- designating means for designating the data of address
15 information read by the reading means as data of address information for the facsimile transmission via the internet.